

REMARKS

The amendments set out above and the following remarks are believed responsive to the points raised by the Office Action dated March 25, 2004. In view of the amendments set out above and the following remarks, reconsideration is respectfully requested.

The Pending Claims

Claims 1-14 remain pending. Claim 15 is added by this amendment.

Claims 1, 7, 9, and 10 have been amended, and claim 15 has been added, to describe the invention more clearly. No new matter has been added, the basis for the amended claim language may be found within the original specification, claims and drawings.

Claims 7 and 9 are supported at, for example, page 11, lines 2-7, and page 7, line 20, through page 8, line 3, respectively. Claim 15 is supported by, for example, claims 1, 10, 12, and 13 as filed. Entry of the above is respectfully requested.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicant is pleased to note the Office Action indicates claim 13 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims, and to overcome the rejection under Section 112. Newly submitted claim 15 includes the limitations of base claim 1, dependent claim 13, and intervening claims 10 and 12, as originally filed.

The Office Action

For convenience, the following remarks will address the rejections in the same order they were raised in the Office Action.

Claims 7-13 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicant regards as the invention. According to the Office Action, the phrases and terms “relatively more electrically conductive,” “relatively resiliently stronger,” “turn,” and “relatively wide bent,” are relative, and the term “stable” is unclear.

The claims have been amended to improve the form of the claims and more distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicant regards as his invention. The term “relatively” has been deleted from claim 7, the terms “turn” and “relatively wide bent” have been deleted from claim 9, and the term “stable” has been deleted from claim 10.

Thus, it is respectfully submitted that with these remarks and amendments to the claims, the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112 have now been overcome and should be withdrawn.

Claims 1-12, and 14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102 as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 3,670,121 to Howe (hereinafter referred to as "Howe").

Claims 1-6, 9, and 14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102 as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,005,210 to Chien (hereinafter referred to as "Chien").

Each of these rejections is separately and respectfully traversed.

According to the Office Action, Howe discloses an electrical switch including a contact assembly comprising at least one pair of pivotable levers **6** and **9**, and **7**, and Chien discloses an electrical switch including a contact assembly comprising at least one pair of pivotable levers including first lever **43**.

There is no disclosure in either of these references of an electrical switch comprising a contact assembly comprising a first lever and a second lever wherein the second lever is resiliently stronger than the first lever, as defined in amended claim 1.

Furthermore, in contrast with the present invention, wherein the contact assembly is formed by separate overlying strips to form a multilayered structure providing at least one pair of levers (*see, for example*, the paragraph bridging pages 6 and 7 referring to strips **40** and **42**, as well as Figs. 4 and 5), the prior art merely teaches a single leaf spring (Howe, the leaf spring including an arm **6**, an arm **7**, and a contact **9**) and a single curved sheet (Chien, *see*, Figures 4 and 11, illustrating curved sheet **43**, bent to form an engaging and controlling groove **433** and provided with a tailing end with a small boss **434**, *see also*, col. 4, lines 47-50).

Since there is no teaching in either Howe or Chien of an electrical switch comprising a contact assembly comprising a first lever and a second lever wherein the second lever is resiliently stronger than the first lever, and since, in view of the operation of the switches described in Howe (*see, for example*, Figures 6 and 7) and Chien (*see, for example*, Figures 4 and 11), there is no suggestion of such a contact assembly, neither Howe nor Chien can anticipate or suggest the electrical switch claimed in claim 1 as amended, and thus, the rejection cannot be maintained.

For the reasons set forth above, reconsideration of the rejections is respectfully requested.

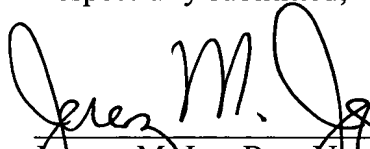
Conclusion

In view of the amendment and remarks recited herein, the application is considered in good and proper form for allowance, and the Examiner is respectfully requested to pass this application to issue.

In re Appln. of Yee Tak KWONG
Application No. 10/615,242

If, in the opinion of the Examiner, a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of the subject application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jeremy M. Jay", written over a horizontal line.

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Date: 17 May 2004